

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20463

AUG 23 2000

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECIEPT REQUESTED</u>

Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. 240 Ely Harmony Rd. Freehold, NJ 07728

RE: MUR 4935

Dear Sir or Madam:

On July 25, 2000, the Federal Election Commission found reason to believe that Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a) and 11 C.F.R. § 114.2, provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and the Commission's regulations. However, after considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission also determined to take no further action and closed the file as it pertains to Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's finding, is attached for your information.

The Commission reminds you that 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a) and 11 C.F.R. § 114.2 prohibit corporations from making contributions in connection with federal elections. Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. should take action to make sure that this activity does not occur in the future.

The file will be made public within 30 days after this matter had been closed with respect to all other respondents involved. You are advised that the confidentiality provisions of 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12)(A) remain in effect with respect to all respondents still involved in this matter.

Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. Page 2

If you have any questions, please contact Joel J. Roessner or Angela Whitehead Quigley, the attorneys assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Darryl R. Wold Chairman

Enclosure

Factual and Legal Analysis

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

MUR

4935

RESPONDENT:

' Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd.

I. GENERATION OF MATTER

Matter Under Review ("MUR") 4935 was generated by a Complaint filed by Sandy

Aboulafia, Vice President of the Women's Democratic Club of New York City alleging that Dear

for Congress, Inc. ("the Committee") accepted prohibited corporate contributions during the

1998 election cycle.

II. FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

Under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, 2 U.S.C. §§ 431-451 ("the Act"), and the Commission's regulations, a contribution is a gift, subscription, loan, advance, deposit of money, or anything of value made by a person for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office. 2 U.S.C. § 431(8)(A); 11 C.F.R. § 100.7(a)(1). The Act prohibits corporations from making contributions in connection with federal elections. 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a); 11 C.F.R. § 114.2.

The Complainant alleges that the Committee's reports reveal that it accepted and spent prohibited corporate contributions. In connection with its audit of the Committee, undertaken in accordance with section 438(b) of the Act, the Commission's Audit staff reviewed copies of contribution checks accepted by the Committee for the 1998 election cycle. Based on this review, it appears that Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. made a contribution to the Committee for the 1998 election cycle in the amount of \$180.00. Accordingly, there is reason to believe that

Horizon Insurance Agency, Ltd. violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a) and 11 C.F.R. § 114.2 by making a prohibited corporate contribution to the Committee.